

Town of Wethersfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of the January 13, 2010 Meeting

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Chairman Rick Baldoni called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM in the lower level Meeting Room in Town Hall, which was attended by Commissioners Ingrid Boelhouwer, William Knapp, Christoph Geiss, Ralph Moyer, Robert Pulford, Jim Schumaker and Rebecca Zalznock. Also in attendance was Kathy Bagley, Director of the Parks & Recreation Department and Christopher Shepard, Director of the Nature Center.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December 9, 2009 Minutes were reviewed and on a Motion by R. Moyer, Seconded by R. Pulford, approved unanimously.

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- C. Shepard distributed the schedule for the Great Meadows Conservation Trust "Brisk Winter Walks 2010".
- I. Boelhouwer passed around her copy of the booklet received while attending the CROG and the Central CT Bicycle Alliance sponsored presentation of Bicycle Friendly Communities held at the Bushnell Theater on January 12, 2010. The booklet describes successful bicycle path efforts and programs initiated and adopted by several cities in the United States. Ms. Boelhouwer suggested the Commission continue to endorse improvements and development of bike pathways in Town, including road striping that better delineate the existing pathways.
- J. Schumaker received a notice from the State Forest & Parks department requesting registration for any Trail Days events to be held on June 5, 2010. Due to lack of attendance in recent years for the Trail Days events, the Commission decided not to sponsor a Trail Days hike.

III. KATHY BAGLEY REPORT

- Ms. Bagley reminded the Commission of the submittal deadlines for meeting Agendas (24 hours prior to meetings) and Minutes (draft due within 10 days of meetings until finalized). The documents are posted on the Town's web site for public review.
- Ms. Bagley explained the recent State approval to transfer \$8,800 of grant monies designated for a defunct Wintergreen Woods project over to the Heritage Trail program. The money will be used for maintenance and repairs of the trail, primarily in the area of Griswoldville. A "no motorized vehicle" sign will also be considered for the trail entrance at the Folly Brook Boulevard / Brimfield Road area.
- A copy of one of the five reports for the Wintergreen Woods project conducted by Central Connecticut State University students was passed around. The students presented their reports to the Commission at the December 2009 meeting held at the Nature Center. Chairman Baldoni will prepare a letter of acknowledgement and thanks to Dr. Button's class for the completion of the project. C. Shepard will provide the Commission members with CDs of the reports, along with one file / reference copy of each. Commission members are to review the reports for discussion at the February 2010 meeting in order to make recommendations to the Town Council related to the maintenance and management of the park.
- Commissioner R. Moyer raised the issue of moving forward with the recommendations presented in the *Beaver Brook Park Master Plan* prepared by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (dated July 2009), including options for funding.

IV. MOTION

Acting as a Commission Sub-committee, Commissioners J. Schumaker and I. Boelhouwer completed a review of the delinquent lots listed on the 2008 Grand List to determine potential acquisition by the Town. The only parcel of interest is Lot 65 (0.8 acres owned by Jeronim Logush, et al) located on Harvard Street and abutting the northwest corner of Wintergreen Woods. R. Moyer presented a Motion for the Conservation Commission to recommend Town Council to accept the Sub-committee report and to begin the process to acquire this parcel for use as open space.

Commissioner R. Pulford seconded the motion.

Motion carried with the members voting unanimously.

Chairman Baldoni adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM under a Motion by R. Moyer and seconded by C. Geiss.

Respectfully submitted by

Rebecca M. Zalznock, Secretary